

Message Text

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15

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 5254

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, EGYPT, IS, US, UR

SUBJECT: BERLINER ZEITUNG CORRESPONDENT POSES QUESTIONS TO
KISSINGER

1. IN A SPECIAL REPORT BY OERLINER ZEITUNG CORRESPONDENT HANS-VICTOR KREIPE DATED CAIRO, TWO QUESTIONS ARE POSED TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. THE CONTEXT OF THE ARTICLE IN WHICH THESE QUESTIONS ARE POSED IS THE REPUTED REASONABLENESS OF THE SOVIET UNION'S POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AS EVIDENCED BY THE RECENT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO TO CAIRO, AND THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR RECONVENTING THE GENEVA MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE. THE QUESTIONS ARE: (A) WHETHER THE U.S. IS READY TO FORCE ISRAEL TO REASONABLE POLICY, I.E. FOR ISRAEL TO RETURN ALL OF THE LAND OCCUPIED AS A RESULT OF THE 1967 WAR; AND (B) WHETHER AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD THE ARAB STATES HAS INDEED CHANGED IN THAT THE US CONTINUES TO PROVIDE MILITARY SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL.

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2. COMMENT: THE ABOVE QUESTIONS OF COURSE ARE NOT DESERVING OF ANY ANSWER BUT ARE REPORTED IN ORDER TO SHOW THE KIND OF COVERAGE WHICH NEUES DEUTSCHLAND GIVES TO MIDDLE EASTERN SUBJECTS. ON THE SAME PAGE AS THE ABOVE MENTIONED ARTICLE APPEARS ANOTHER SHORT REPORT DATED WASHINGTON WHICH STATES THAT DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAS CONFIRMED THAT A FIRM CALLED "VINNELL CORPORATION" COMPOSED OF ABOUT 1,000 MEMBERS OF THE FORMER "GREEN BERETS" ORGANIZATION ARE IN SAUDI ARABIA FOR THE TRAINING OF SAUDI ARABIA NATIONAL GUARD. REFERENCE IS AGAIN MADE IN THIS CONTEXT TO AN EARLIER STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER ABOUT THE POSSIBLE USE OF WESTERN FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE EVENT THAT THE WEST FACES ECONOMIC STRANGULATION BECAUSE OF AN OIL EMBARGO INSTITUTED BY MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES. IN SUM, THIS OFFICIAL EAST GERMAN NEWSPAPER CONTINUES TO PLAY UP A POSSIBLE THREAT TO THE MIDDLE EAST FROM US POLICY AND AT THE SAME TIME ATTEMPTS TO CASTIGATE THE US FOR ITS PURPORTED LACK OF DESIRE FOR A GENUINE MIDDLE EASTERN PEACE SETTLEMENT. COOPER

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